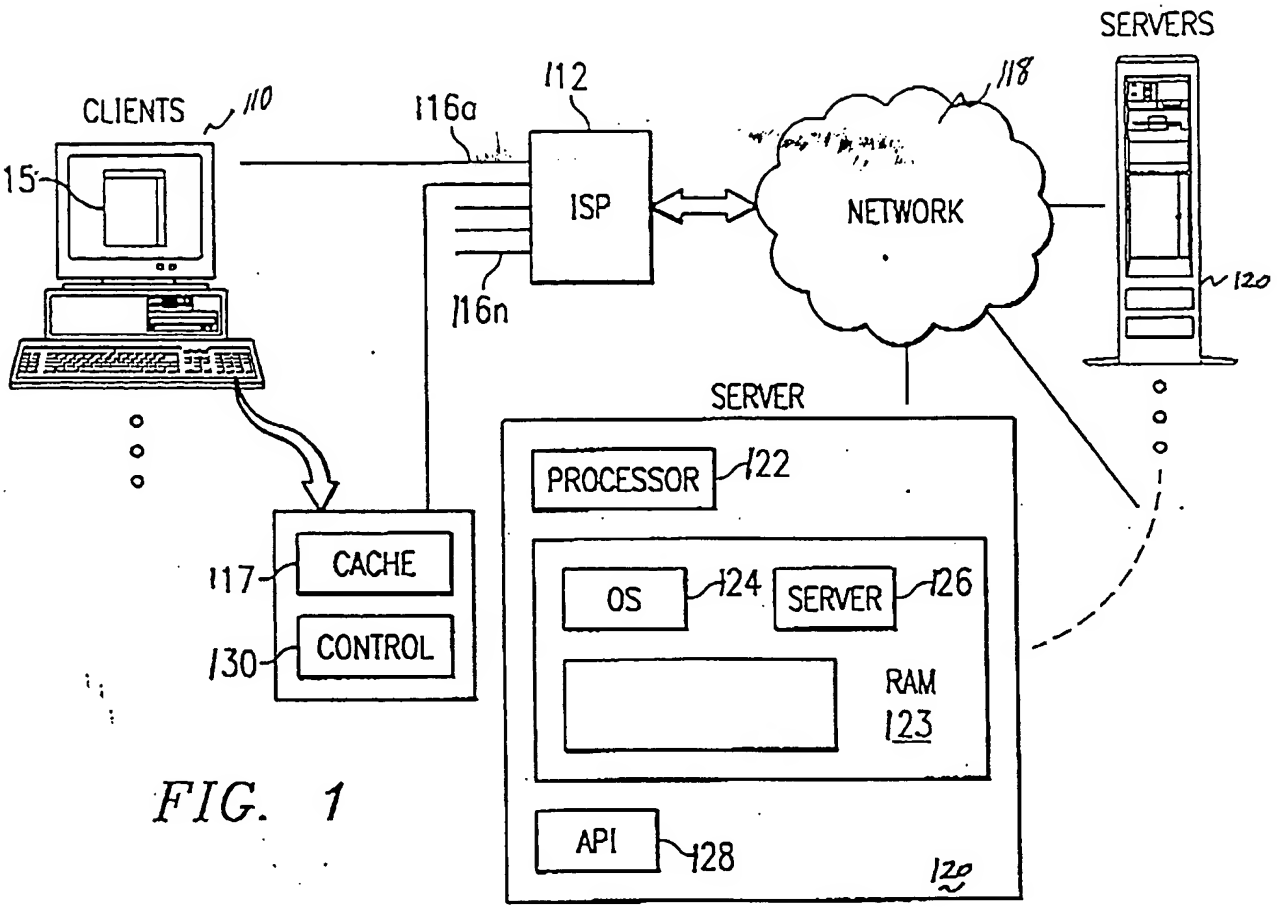
SERVERS
CLIENTS
110
112
116a
118
ISP
NETWORK
15
116n
120
SERVER
PROCESSOR
122
CACHE
117
OS
124
SERVER
126
CONTROL
130
RAM
123
API
128
120

FIG. 1

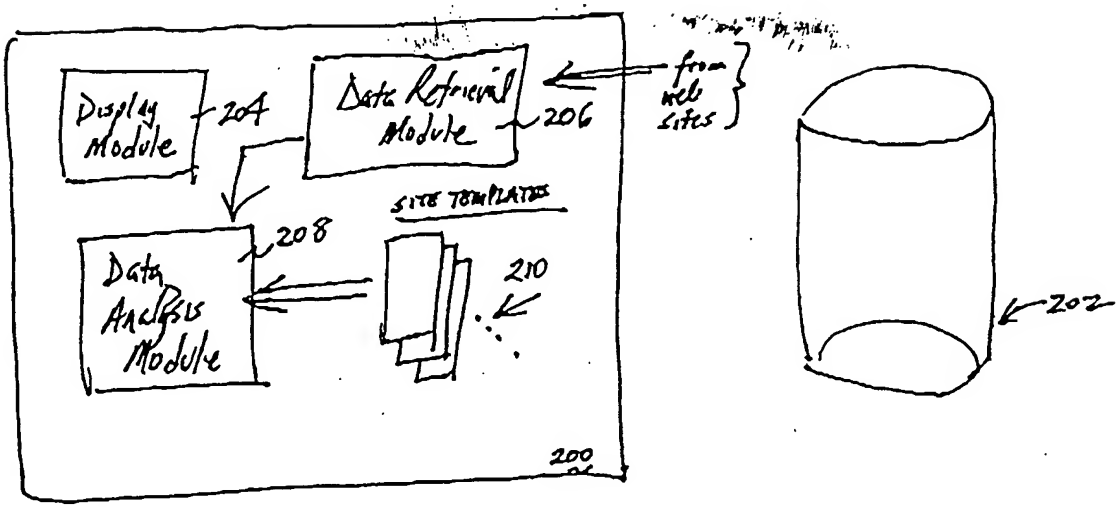

Figure 2

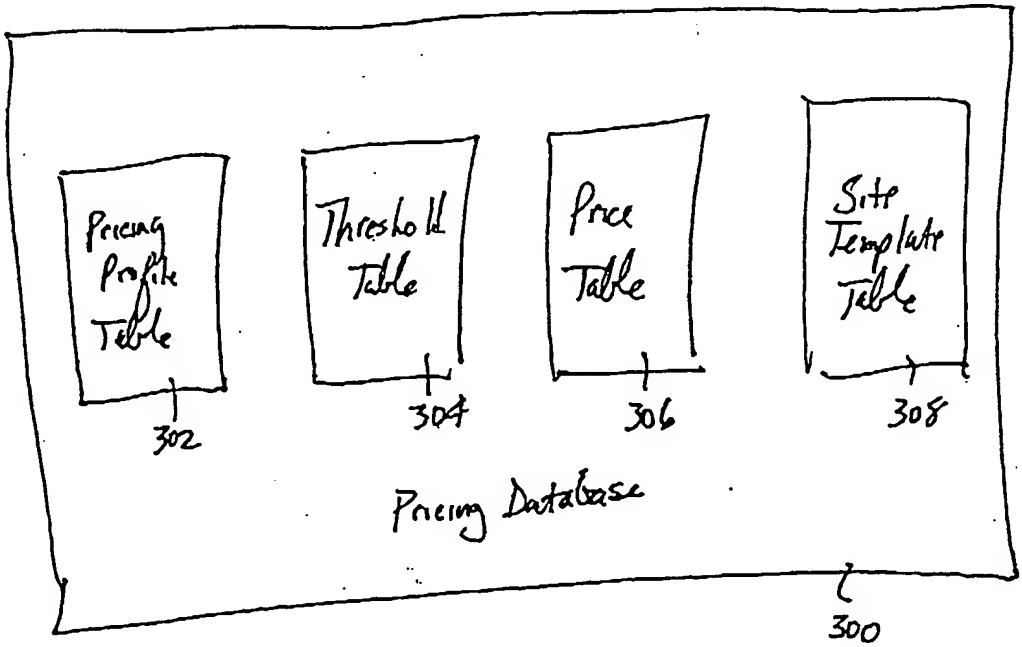

Figure 3

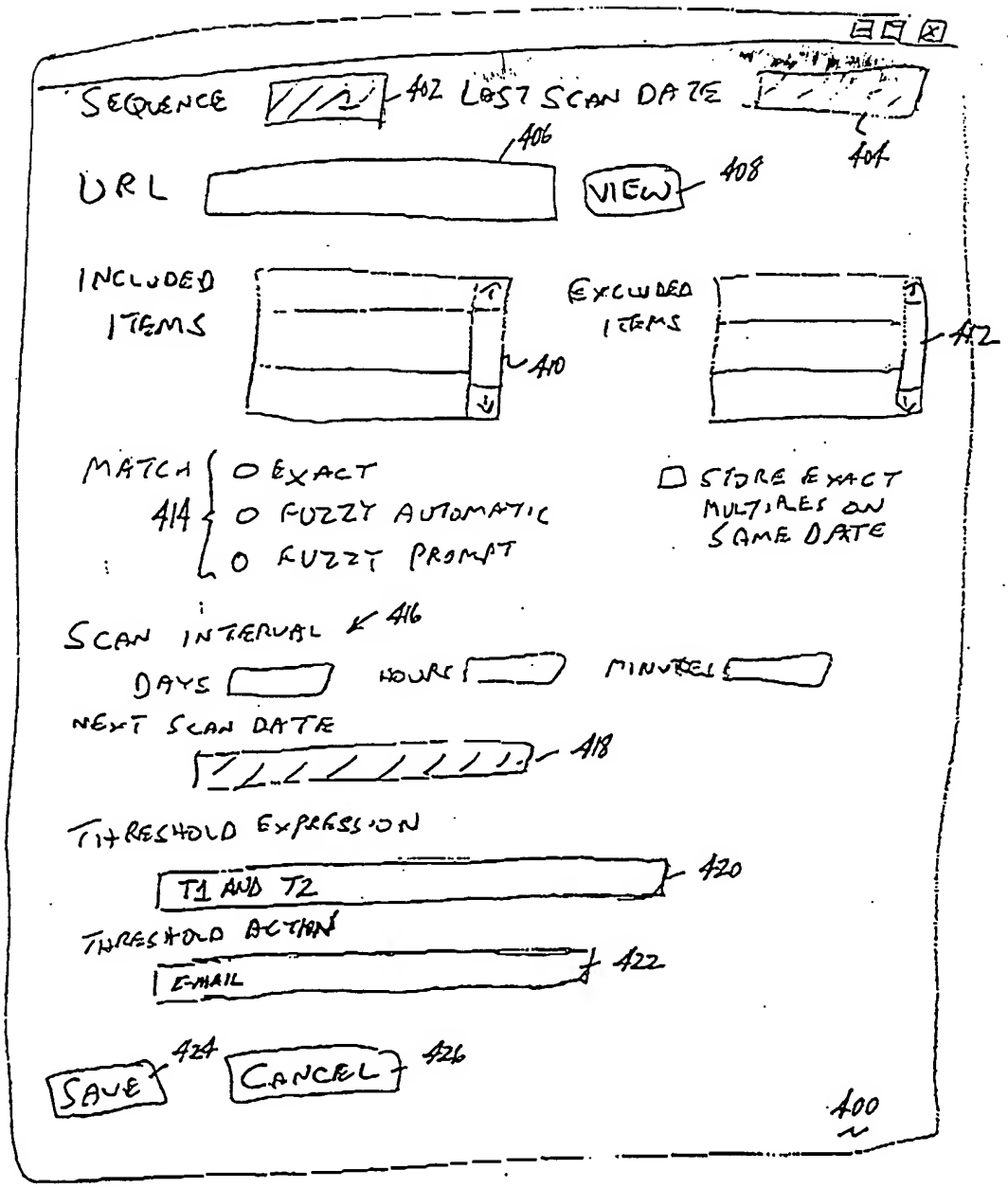
SEQUENCE
402
LAST SCAN DATE
404
URL
406
VIEW
408
INCLUDED ITEMS
410
EXCLUDED ITEMS
412
MATCH
414
O EXACT
O FUZZY AUTOMATIC
O FUZZY PROMPT
STORE EXACT MULTIPLES ON SAME DATE
SCAN INTERVAL
416
DAYS
HOURS
MINUTES
NEXT SCAN DATE
418
THRESHOLD EXPRESSION
T1 AND T2
420
THRESHOLD ACTION
E-MAIL
422
SAVE
424
CANCEL
426
400

Figure 4

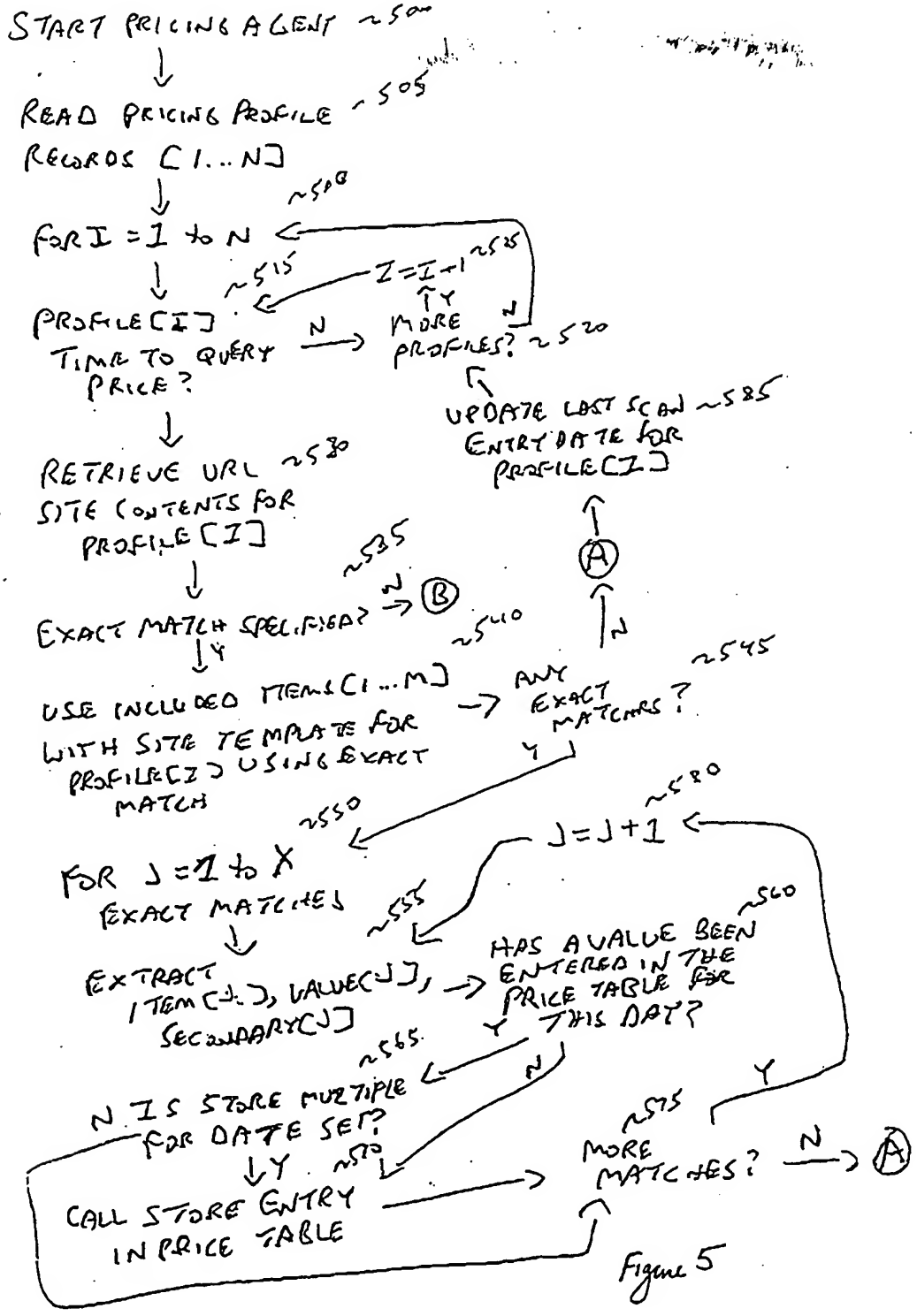
START PRICING AGENT ~500
READ PRICING PROFILE ~505
RECORDS [1...N]
~510
FOR I = 1 to N
~515
PROFILE [I] TIME TO QUERY PRICE?
N
MORE PROFILES? ~520
N
I = I + 1 ~525
Y
UPDATE LAST SCAN ENTRY DATE FOR PROFILE [I] ~585
A
RETRIEVE URL SITE CONTENTS FOR PROFILE [I] ~530
~535
EXACT MATCH SPECIFIED?
N
B
Y
~540
USE INCLUDED ITEMS [1...M] WITH SITE TEMPLATE FOR PROFILE [I] USING EXACT MATCH
~545
ANY EXACT MATCHES?
N
A
Y
~550
FOR J = 1 to X EXACT MATCHES
~555
EXTRACT ITEM [J], VALUE [J], SECONDARY [J]
~560
HAS A VALUE BEEN ENTERED IN THE PRICE TABLE FOR THIS DAY?
Y
N
~565
IS STORE MULTIPLE FOR DATE SET?
Y
~570
CALL STORE ENTRY IN PRICE TABLE
~575
MORE MATCHES?
N
A
Y
J = J + 1 ~580

Figure 5

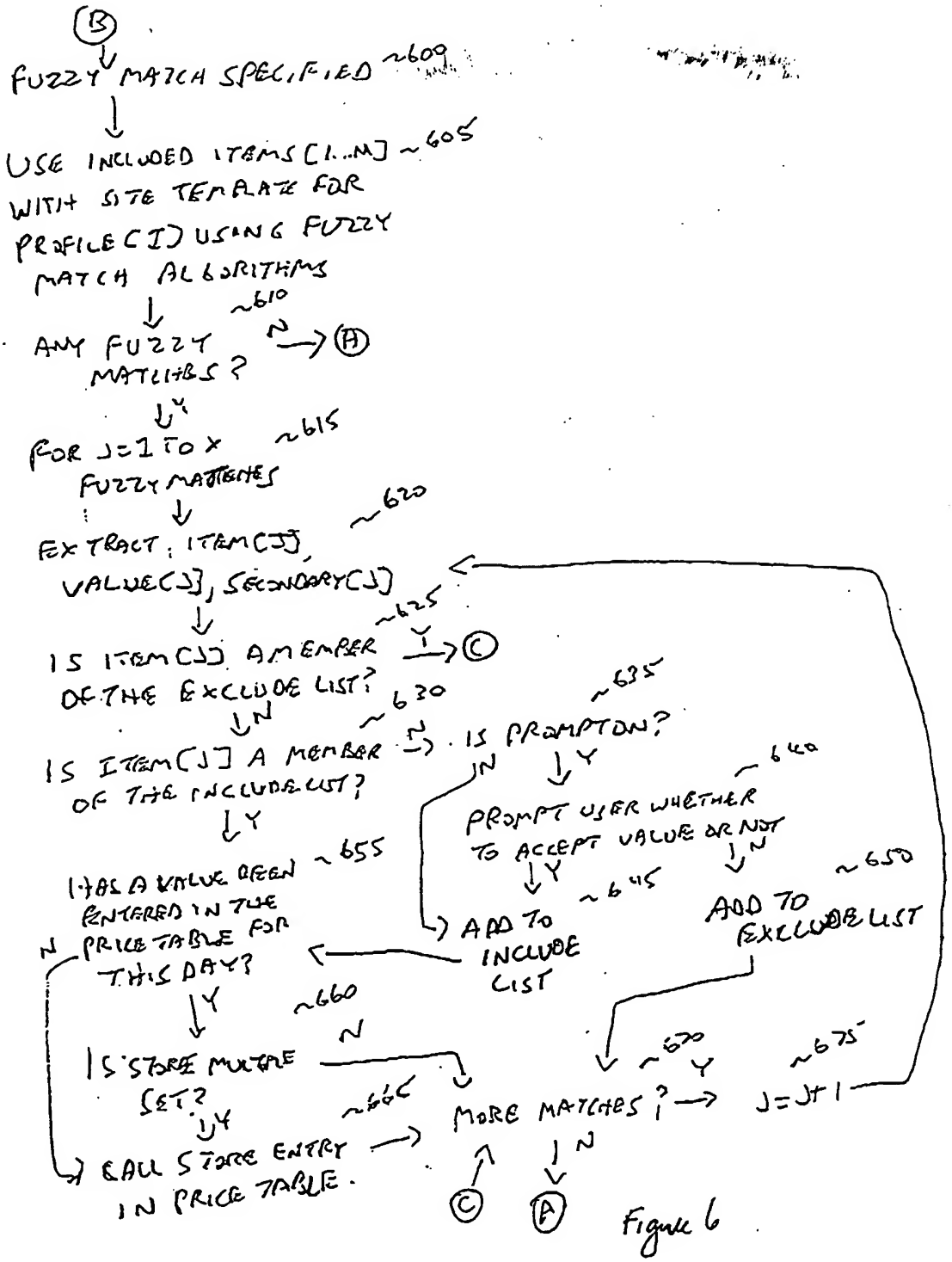
B
FUZZY MATCH SPECIFIED
600
USE INCLUDED ITEMS[1..M] WITH SITE TEMPLATE FOR PROFILE[I] USING FUZZY MATCH ALGORITHMS
605
ANY FUZZY MATCHES?
610
N
A
Y
FOR J=1 TO X FUZZY MATCHES
615
EXTRACT: ITEM[J], VALUE[J], SECONDARY[J]
620
IS ITEM[J] A MEMBER OF THE EXCLUDE LIST?
625
Y
C
N
IS ITEM[J] A MEMBER OF THE INCLUDE LIST?
630
N
IS PROMPTON?
635
Y
N
PROMPT USER WHETHER TO ACCEPT VALUE OR NOT
640
Y
N
ADD TO INCLUDE LIST
645
ADD TO EXCLUDE LIST
650
HAS A VALUE BEEN ENTERED IN THE PRICE TABLE FOR THIS DAY?
655
N
Y
IS STORE MULTIPLE SET?
660
N
Y
CALL STORE ENTRY IN PRICE TABLE.
665
MORE MATCHES?
670
Y
N
J=J+1
675
C
A

Figure 6

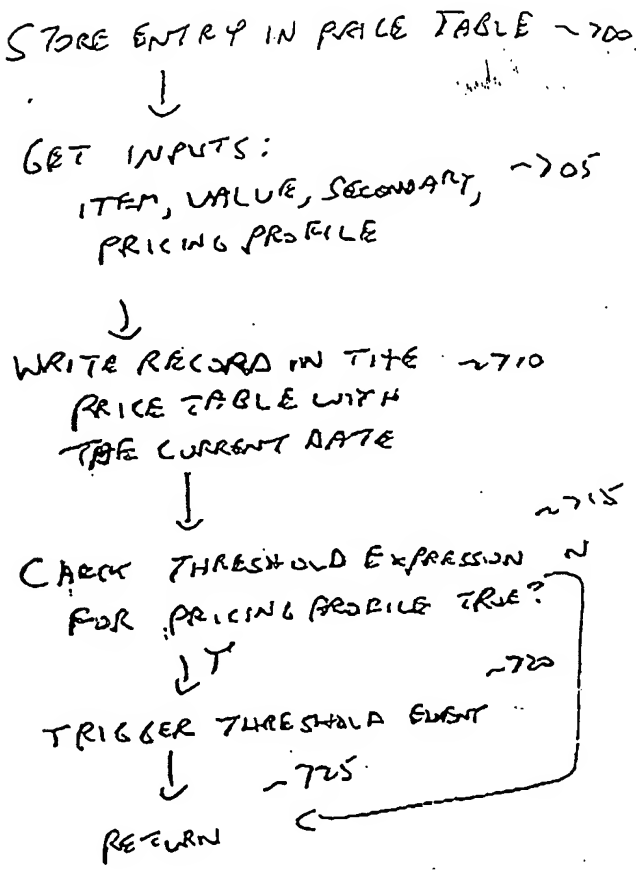
STORE ENTRY IN PRICE TABLE
700
GET INPUTS:
ITEM, VALUE, SECONDARY,
PRICING PROFILE
705
WRITE RECORD IN TIME
PRICE TABLE WITH
THE CURRENT DATE
710
CHECK THRESHOLD EXPRESSION
FOR PRICING PROFILE TRUE?
715
N
T
720
TRIGGER THRESHOLD EVENT
725
RETURN

Figure 7